

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claim 7 is directed to allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.

The subject matter of allowable claim 7 has been incorporated within each of new independent claims 11 and 18. Therefore, allowance of claims 11 and 18 is deemed to be warranted.

Claims 1-10 have been canceled in favor of new claims 11-18. Support for the subject matter of the new claims is provided at least in the original claims.

Claims 1, 4, and 6 were rejected, under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Tatsumi (US 2002/0064275) in view of McLampy et al. (US 5,515,422) or Riemann et al. (US 2005/0174990). Claims 2 and 5 were rejected, under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Tatsumi (US 2002/0064275) in view of Riemann et al. (US 2005/0174990). Claims 3 and 8-10 were rejected, under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Tatsumi (US 2002/0064275) in view of McLampy et al. (US 5,515,422). To the extent these rejections may be deemed applicable to new claims 12-17, the Applicant respectfully traverses based on the points set forth below.

Claim 12 recites features of original claims 1 and 5 and defines a private branch exchange that displays, for an unanswered incoming call, a no answer indication on a display unit of each

of a plurality extension phones corresponding to an extension incoming call group number identified in the incoming call.

The Office Action impliedly acknowledges that Tatsumi does not disclose this feature but proposes that Riemann discloses it in paragraph [0105] (see Office Action page 3, sixth paragraph).

However, the Applicant notes that Riemann discloses in paragraph [0105] that a call log is maintained for all incoming and outgoing calls on a user's line, regardless of whether an incoming call is answered, so that caller identification information may be viewed by the user later (see Riemann paragraph [0105]). Riemann's disclosure of logging all incoming and outgoing calls on a user's line is not the same as, or similar to, the Applicant's claimed feature of displaying, for an unanswered incoming call, a no answer indication on a display unit of each of a plurality extension phones corresponding to an extension incoming call group number identified in the incoming call. Thus, Riemann is deficient as a reference vis-à-vis the Applicant's claims.

The Office Action does not cite McLampy for supplementing the teachings of Tatsumi and Riemann in this regard.

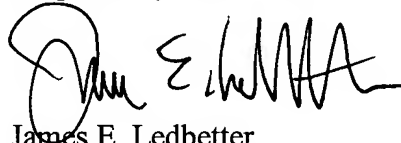
Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that Tatsumi, Riemann and McLampy, considered individually or in combination, do not render obvious the subject matter defined by claim 12. Therefore, allowance of claim 12 and all claims dependent therefrom is deemed to be warranted.

Applicant further submits that the applied references do not disclose the group incoming call table recited in claim 12.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James E. Ledbetter', written over a horizontal line.

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Registration No. 28,732

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